[Mr. G. Parameswaran Pillai.]

The Periyar Lake.

38. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*):

(i) Will the Government be pleased to state the extent of the area of the Periyar lake leased to the British Government under the agreement dated the 29th November, 1886?

(ii) What is the extent of the catchment area and what is the lease amount?

(iii) Is there any prohibition regarding the registry and cultivation of the catchment area, and if so, on what grounds? If not, are the Government now deriving any land revenue therefrom?

(iv) If cultivation is prohibited, are the Government getting any compensation for the consequent loss of revenue? If not, will the Government be pleased to approach the Madras Government with a view to enable them to assign such lands for cultivation?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (i) and (ii) The member is referred to pages 39 to 44 of the *Land Revenue Manual*, Volume II. The extent of the catchment area is about 245 sq. miles.

(iii) Yes. The entire catchment area is reserved forest.

(iv) In the light of the answer to part (iii) this question does not arise.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): The answer to clause (iii) of my question is: "The entire catchment area is reserved forest." I should like to know whether that is the only ground on which the registry and cultivation of the catchment area of the Periyar is prohibited.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Practically that is the only ground.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Sir, may I know whether the Chief Secretary is in a position to answer me more definitely than saying "practically"?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The officers of the Madras Government are against allowing registry of lands in the catchment area.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): If the officers of the Madras Government are against it, may I know whether there is any agreement which is binding upon this Government that the wishes of the officers of the Madras Government should be complied with?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no regular agreement.

MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): May I then know whether this Government will be pleased to approach the

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Madras Government with a view to enable them to assign such lands as are in future found necessary by the Travancore Government?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Travellers' Bungalow at Kanjirapalli.

39. MR. K DOMINIC TOMMAN (*Peermade* cum *Devicolam*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) the total cost of the Second Class Travellers' Bungalow with its out-houses at Kanjirapalli;

(2) the annual cost of upkeep of the same with the watcher's pay;

(3) the amount of annual income realised for each of the years 1096, 1097 and 1098;

(4) the amount of rent paid by the Government for the buildings now used as the court house and the Sub-Registrar's office at Kanjirapalli; and

(5) the distance of these offices from the Travellers' Bungalow?

(*b*) Is not the Travellers' Bungalow close to the other public institutions at Kanjirapalli such as the District Hospital, the English School and the Police Station?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (a) (1)-Rs. 13,226.

(2) Rs. 280 per annum, including the pay of the watcher.

(3) The receipts for 1097 and 1098 were Rs. 41-20-8 and Rs. 33-23-6, respectively. The bungalow was opened for public use only from the 1st Chingam 1097.

(4) Rs. 37-14-0 *per mensem* for the court house and Rs 12 *per mensem* for the Sub-Registry Office.

(5) About a mile.

(*b*) Yes.

Assignment of Vechur Kari to Depressed Classes.

40. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have reserved the Vechur *kari* lands in the Vaikam taluk for assignment to members of the depressed classes like Pulayas;

(*b*) what the extent of the *kari* lands available for the purpose of such assignment is; and

(*c*) whether they have received any application from the Pulayas of Vechur and adjoining places for the assignment of lands from the Vechur *kari*, and if so, how many applications have been received and what the extent of the lands already registered is?

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